

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061203
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW;DH
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061203

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH NKOMO

REF: LUSAKA 735

1. STRICTLY FYI ONLY: WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN HEARING WHAT NKOMO HAS TO SAY, PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME WHEN WE HAVE RECEIVED STRONG INDICATIONS THAT MUZOREWA IS EXPLORING CAUTIOUSLY THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING WITH SMITH AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT BASED ON A REFERENDUM OF SOME SORT. THE BRITISH HAVE TOLD US THAT NKOMO IS EAGER TO TALK WITH OWEN AND IS SEEKING TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN HIMSELF, MUGABE AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY. END FYI.

2. DURING YOUR CONVERSATION YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:
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-- AS PRESIDENT CARTER NOTED IN HIS SPEECH TO THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL AND RAPID TRANSITION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA TO MAJORITY RULE.

-- WE HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE BRITISH

FULLY SUPPORT FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S VISIT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE BRITISH IN THE PREPARATION FOR HIS VISIT.

-- WE HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU AND OTHER CENTRAL FIGURES MR. OWEN WILL BE ABLE TO DEVELOP A NEW BASIS ON WHICH TO REINITIATE NEGOTIATIONS.

-- WE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE UNITED STATES. CONGRESS REPEALED THE BYRD AMENDMENT BY A LARGE MARGIN WHICH WE FEEL CONVEYS TO THE SMITH REGIME THE DISAPPROVAL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR HIS POLICIES. THE ADMINISTRATION WORKED HARD FOR THIS CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

-- THE REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT IS ANOTHER ELEMENT OF OUR POLICY OF INFORMING SMITH THAT HE CANNOT EXPECT ANY HELP FROM THE UNITED STATES IN HIS ATTEMPTS TO AVOID REAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL OF ZIMBABWE'S LEADERS.

-- WE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH YOU AND YOUR EMISSARIES. AS YOU KNOW MR. CHINMANO MET WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELLE AND OTHERS WHILE HE WAS IN THE UNITED STATES. WE VALUED GREATLY OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT THE TIME IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING WHEN ALL OF THE PRINCIPAL ACTORS IN THE RHODESIAN SITUATION

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WILL HAVE TO MAKE HARD DECISIONS. IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE IF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IS TO BE REACHED.

-- WE ARE ANXIOUS TO LEARN YOUR VIEWS OF WHAT MUST BE DONE FOR A SETTLEMENT TO BE ACHIEVED.
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